

We claim:

- Sub 21
1. A distributed computing network having at least one computing device, the distributed computing network comprising:
- a controlled computing device;
  - a state table maintained by the controlled computing device and representing an operational state of the controlled computing device;
  - a user controller device having user input/output capability for presenting a user perceptible device control interface for remote user interaction with the controlled computing device;
  - a user control point module in the user controller device operating to obtain the state table of the user controller device and subscribe to change notifications of the state table; and
  - an event source module operating according to an eventing model to distribute the change notifications to any subscribing user controller device upon a change to the operational state of the controlled computing device, so as to thereby synchronize the user perceptible device control interface with the changed operational state among said any subscribing user controller device.
2. The distributed computing network of claim 1 further comprising:
- the state table having a plurality of entries, wherein each entry of the state table comprises at least a variable identifier, a type and a current value;
  - at least one entry of the state table being of a type of data buffer, and containing a file as its current value;

whereby a change to the current value of said at least one entry effects a file transfer from the controlled device to said any subscribing user control device.

- 5           3.     The distributed computing network of claim 1 wherein the controlled computing device is an embedded computing device.

Sub c2 4.     A computer-readable medium having encoded thereon a state table representing an operational state of a computing device, the state table  
10 comprising:

a plurality of entries, each entry comprising:  
a variable identifier; and  
a current value.

15           5.     The computer-readable medium of claim 4 wherein each entry of the state table further comprises:

a variable type;  
a designation of legal values; and  
a designation of a default value.

20           6.     The computer-readable medium of claim 5 wherein the variable type can include a data buffer containing a file, whereby transmission of the state table between devices effects transfer of the file.

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